Present status for construction of buildings for Vizhinjam Research Centre

3410. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of land measuring 1.7 acre offered by the State Government to the Vizhinjam Research Centre of CMFRI for the construction of buildings;

(b) whether his Ministry has given promise for the construction of the building in the land offered by the State Government during the Eleventh Plan;

(c) whether the land has been taken over; and

(d) the steps taken for the construction of buildings for the Vizhinjam Research Centre as promised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LALBHURIA): (a) The Vizhinjam Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi was offered 1.7 acres of land by the Government of Kerala in the year 1995 for establishment of Centre for Development and Transfer of Mariculture Technology (CDTMT). Subsequently, the proposal for construction of permanent building for Vizhinjam Research Centre in the land offered by the Government of Kerala was not agreed to by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), as the title of the land was vested with the State Department of fisheries. However, in March 2003, the Government of Kerala offered to lease out the land in favour of CMFRI/ICAR for 25 years at a concessional rate of 1% of the market value of the land. Meanwhile, while formulating the Tenth Five Year Plan proposal of the Institute, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) decided to merge the Centre with the Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI. Subsequently, this decision of EFC was kept in abeyance until further order. The Research Centre is maintaining its *status quo.*

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has made a provision in its XI Plan EFC proposal to construct Laboratory-cum-office building for the Vizhinjam Research Centre, which is under process.

Guidance to farmers for justifiable prices of their yields

t3411. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: (a) whether Government will provide guidance/training to the marginal and medium level farmers for formation of companies collectively in order to provide reasonable prices to farmers for their produce;

(b) if so, by when the plan will be formulated in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Presently, there are rton specific programmes to provide guidance/ training to the marginal land medium level farmers for formation of companies collectively in order to provide reasonable prices to farmers for their produce. However, the Centrally

t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.